

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for representing a dynamic document, comprising the steps of:

5 providing a dynamic document template; and
 binding an instances set to said dynamic document template.

2. A method according to claim 1, wherein said step of providing further comprises the steps of:

 describing a set of layout designs; and
10 defining the logic plan of said dynamic document template.

3. A method according to claim 2, wherein said step of defining further comprises the steps of:

 defining a set of dynamic objects for inclusion in said dynamic document;
15 defining a set of data values; and
 defining a set of rules for assigning said data values to said dynamic objects.

4. A method according to claim 3, wherein said data values are one of a group including database items and media items.

20 5. A method according to claim 3, wherein said step of describing further comprises the steps of:

 providing a set of layout objects, said layout objects represented in either a vendor neutral format, or native format of a layout tool, wherein said layout tool is indicated by the type of said object;

providing a set of possible pages in said dynamic document;

and

providing a set of placeholders for said dynamic objects.

6. A method according to claim 3, wherein said set of rules are defined in
5 terms of Relational Algebra.

7. A method according to claim 3, wherein said dynamic objects comprise
a storage system for content items, said storage system being operable to
receive requests for items in a form of a reference and to reply with an actual
item.

10 8. A method according to claim 4, wherein said data values are defined
as Relational Database tables.

9. A method according to claim 4, wherein said step of binding comprises
the step of assigning said instances sets to said database tables.

10. A method according to claim 2, wherein said step of providing further
15 comprises the step of amending said layout design while not amending said
logic plan.

11. A dynamic document template comprising:

a logic section; and

a layout section comprising at least one layout object.

20 12. The dynamic document template according to claim 11, wherein said
logic section comprises:

a set of dynamic objects;

a set of data values; and

a set of rules for assigning said data values to said dynamic objects.

13. The dynamic document template according to claim 12, wherein said set of rules is defined in terms of Relational Algebra.

5 14. The dynamic document template according to claim 12, wherein said dynamic objects comprise a storage system for content items, said storage system being operable to receive requests for items in a form of a reference and to reply with an actual item.

15. The dynamic document template according to claim 12, wherein said
10 data values are one of a group including database items and media items.

16. The dynamic document template according to claim 12, wherein said data values are defined as Relational Database tables.

17. The dynamic document template according to claim 11, wherein said layout objects are represented in either a vendor neutral format, or native
15 format of a layout tool, and wherein said layout tool is indicated by the type of said object.

18. A dynamic document comprising:

a dynamic document template; and

an instances set bound to said dynamic document template.

20 19. The dynamic document according to claim 18, wherein said instances set comprises a plurality of pointers to a plurality of data sources.

20. The dynamic document according to claim 19, wherein said data sources comprise one of a group including database data and media items.

21. The dynamic document according to claim 18, wherein said dynamic document template comprises:

a logic section; and

a layout section comprising at least one layout object.

5 22. The dynamic document according to claim 21, wherein said logic section comprises:

a set of dynamic objects;

a set of data values; and

10 a set of rules for assigning said data values to said dynamic objects.

23. The dynamic document according to claim 22, wherein said set of rules is defined in terms of Relational Algebra.

24. The dynamic document according to claim 22, wherein said dynamic objects comprise a storage system for content items, said storage system
15 being operable to receive requests for items in a form of a reference and to reply with an actual item.

25. The dynamic document according to claim 22, wherein said data values are one of a group including database items and media items.

26. The dynamic document according to claim 22, wherein said data
20 values are defined as Relational Database tables.

27. The dynamic document according to claim 26, wherein said instances sets are assigned to said database tables.

28. The dynamic document according to claim 27, wherein said instances sets are of a different type from said database tables.

29. The dynamic document according to claim 21, wherein said layout objects are represented in either a vendor neutral format, or native format of a layout tool, and wherein said layout tool is indicated by the type of said object.